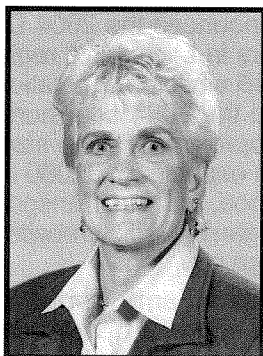


Hammerstrom's

for the people
in the 17th Senate District

Hotline



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OCTOBER 11, 2004



OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH October marks the 20th annual Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a campaign that has boosted mammograms, pushed for better treatments, and saved lives. This year also marks the fourth year I have helped organize Lee National Denim Day in the Michigan Senate. Lee National Denim Day is the world's largest single-day fundraiser for breast cancer. Lee® Jeans encourages millions of people nationwide to slip into their favorite jeans for one day and make a \$5 donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to eradicating breast cancer. Participating businesses and organizations allow employees and members to wear denim in exchange for the \$5 donation. Individuals may also show their support by wearing pink ribbons on their clothing. For more information about Lee National Denim Day or the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, please visit my website and click on the pink ribbon icon.

DID YOU KNOW? Since 1996, Lee National Denim Day has raised more than \$44 million for breast cancer research, education, screening, and treatment programs.

SENATE CONTINUES TO PROTECT GREAT LAKES AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES Michigan would be better protected against invasive plant species like Eurasian milfoil and hydrilla under legislation recently introduced in the Michigan Senate. Senate Bills 1420-1427 aim to regulate the sale and possession of certain non-native plants that pose a threat to habitats in Michigan. The legislation is similar to prohibitions put in place earlier this year to protect Michigan's waterways from invasion by non-native fish species. The bill package also would create a Non-native Species Advisory Council to establish criteria for identifying infested waterways and make recommendations regarding the state's efforts to eradicate invasive species. The Great Lakes Conservation Task Force Report, issued in 2002, made broad recommendations for important steps that the state should take to protect our water quality. One of the most important recommendations was to implement laws that will guard against further invasion of both non-native fish and plants. To view the Task Force's report in its entirety, please visit my website, or contact my office, toll-free, at 1-888-477-8238.

STATEWIDE DEER HUNTING FORECAST ANNOUNCED State wildlife officials recently announced the 2004 Deer Hunting Prospects Forecast, an annual review that examines various conditions and indicators in Michigan's regions and helps hunters know what to expect in the field. Biologists estimate Michigan's statewide fall whitetail population is about the same as it has been in recent years, still above the statewide goal. They predicted the 2004 deer hunting season will be similar to last year's season, when an estimated harvest of 500,000 deer, approximately the size of Michigan's entire deer herd in 1970, were taken. Deer hunting in Michigan is big business. An expected 775,000 individuals will purchase at least one deer license in 2004 and spend more than \$500 million for food, lodging, transportation, and equipment to pursue deer in this state. The full report is available on Michigan's DNR website at www.michigan.gov/dnr. The full report is available on Michigan's DNR website at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

NEW FARM MARKET, U-PICK & AG TOURISM DIRECTORY AVAILABLE The Michigan Farm Market and U-Pick Directory is a guide to over 255 farm markets, u-pick operations, and agricultural tourism opportunities throughout the state. Visiting farm markets and u-pick farms is a family event that can be enjoyed all year long. In addition, there is a separate listing for community or municipally sponsored farmers' markets in your area. It's a great way to shop for a variety of products from local farmers in one place! Be sure to call ahead to determine the correct timeliness of the commodity. For more information in regard to the directory, please visit the state Department of Agriculture's website at www.michigan.gov/mda, or call my office.

If you would like to receive future issues of Hammerstrom's Hotline via e-mail, please contact me at SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov